

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GEORGE 02067 211350Z

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-01 TRSE-00 XMB-02

OPIC-03 CIEP-01 LAB-01 SIL-01 OMB-01 OPR-01 INT-05

AF-04 /085 W

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R 201739Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 579

INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

AMCONSUL PRAMARIBO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GEORGETOWN 2067

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EINV, SOPN

SUBJECT: GOG PRESS AND P.R. CAMPAIGN ON REYNOLDS TAX/NATIONALI-
ZATION ISSUE EASES

1. SINCE EMBASSY'S LAST REPORT ON GOG PRESS AND P.R. CAMPAIGN
ON REYNOLDS TAXNATIONALIZATION ISSUE (REFTEL), FLOW OF ANTI-
REYNOLDS AND ANTI-U.S. PROPAGANDA HAS GENERALLY DECREASED.
DURING PAST TWO WEEKS, THERE HAVE BEEN FEWER PRESS STORIES ON
RESOLUTIONS OF SUPPORT FOR GOVT FROM VARIOUS LOCAL GROUPS (
PERHAPS BECAUSE FEW GROUPS HAD NOT ALREADY SPOKEN), FEWER
PUBLIC STATMENTS ON REYNOLDS BY MINISTERS AND PARTY LEADERS, AND
NO SIGNIFICANT PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS. BOTH GOVT OWNED NEWSPAPERS
DID, HOWEVER, SLANT COVERAGE OF INTERNATIONAL BAUXITE ASSOCIATION
MEETING IN GEORGETOWN TO CREATE IMPRESSION THAT IBA CATEGORICALLY
BACKED GOG IN REYNOLDS DISPUTE, AND VISIT OF NIGERIAN HIGH
COMMISSIONER TO GUYANA EMMANUEL KOLADE WAS USED TO HEADLINE

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NIGERIAN SUPPORT FOR GOG.

2. MOST HOSTILE PIECE OF PROPAGANDA

WAS FRONT PAGE STORY IN
NOVEMBER 10 NEW NATION, WEEKLY OF RULING PEOPLES NATIONAL CONGRESS,
WHICH WAS ENTITLED QUOTE WATERGATE NEWS-BREAKER TELLS U.S.
GOVT...HANDS OFF GUYANA UNQUOTE. STORY WAS MOSTLY PARAPHRASE
OF WASHINGTON POST EDITORIAL OF NOVEMBER 3 WHICH ALSO APPEARED
HERE IN BOTH GOVT OWNED DAILIES. NEW NATION PREFACED ITS
COVERAGE OF POSTS EDITORIAL BY COMMENTING QUOTE AMERICA'S MOST
POLITICALLY INFLUENTIAL NEWSPAPER HAS CONDEMNED THE UNITED STATES
GOVT'S PARTICIPATION IN THE PRESENT REYNOLDS DISPUTE WITH THE
GUYANA GOVT UNQUOTE. NEW NATION EDITORIALS OF NOVEMBER 10 AND
NOVEMBER 17 STRONGLY ATTACKED REYNOLDS DECISION TO LAY OFF WORKERS
IN RESPONSE TO BAUXITE LEVY.

3. COMMENT: REDUCED FLOW AND INTENSITY OF PROPAGANDA CAN BE
ATTRIBUTED TO RANGE OF FACTORS PROBABLY INCLUDING BURNHAM'S
ATTEMPT TO STRIKE STATESMAN-LIKE POSTURE DURING IBA MEETING AND
VISIT OF LIBERIAN PRESIDENT TOLBERT, NEGATIVE FEEDBACK FROM SOME
IBA MEMBERS ON GOG HANDLING OF REYNOLDS ISSUE, FORMAL AND INFORMAL
EXPRESSIONS OF U.S. DISPLEASURE HERE AND IN WASHINGTON, AND LACK
OF ANY MAJOR NEW DEVELOPMENS IN DISPUTE IN RECENT WEEKS.
KREBS

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